MASSACHUSETTS REPORTS STYLE MANUAL PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE REPORTER OF DECISIONS 2014-2015 BRIAN H. REDMOND REPORTER OF DECISIONS

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1.00 GENERAL RULES

1.01 Introduction

This style manual is used by the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court (SJC), their law clerks, and the staff of the office of the Reporter of Decisions in the creation of slip opinions. The manual may be useful to those preparing appellate briefs, and it may offer readers of the official reports a better understanding of the process of reporting the SJC's opinions.

The manual includes general rules of SJC writing style, tables of abbreviations, guidelines for case citation, and rules of punctuation and capitalization followed in preparing the official reports. There are sections explaining the method of forming case captions and party designations. Examples of common statements of dispository language, referred to as "snappers," are provided. The manual also contains information with regard to the publication of the court's decisions.

In the past, the SJC followed the Uniform System of Citation as its general authority for citations, with certain exceptions followed in the interest of consistency with long-standing Massachusetts custom. These exceptions are memorialized here, and the Uniform System of Citation should be consulted only when referred to by the Style Manual or when the Style Manual is silent on a given matter.

1.02 Footnotes

The SJC has not adopted the practice followed by many legal periodicals of placing most citations in footnotes, rather than in the text.

1.03 Numerals

The use of arabic numerals is preferred. However, in referring to articles of Constitutions (Federal or State) and statutes, where indicated in session laws, roman numerals should be retained.

Spell out all numbers smaller than 101. Use a comma when expressing numbers of four or more digits (e.g., 1,000; 10,000).

Exceptions:

- 1. Numbers that begin sentences are always spelled out.
- 2. Substitute words for strings of zeroes (e.g., \$10 million) or units of measure.
- 3. Use numerals where numbers occur throughout the text.

1.04 Italics

Italicize a word or phrase by underlining with a single line.

- 1. Foreign words and phrases are not italicized.
- 2. Italicize the expressions ante, post, supra, infra, id., and [sic].
- 3. Italicize the parties within a citation.
- 4. Introductory signals are not italicized.

1.05 Signals

Signals are used to introduce citations by indicating the purpose of the citation and the degree of support a particular citation gives. The rules governing the use of signals may be found in the Uniform System of Citation, with the following exceptions.

Within a signal, cite cases of the SJC first, the Appeals Court second, and follow the Uniform System of Citation for the rest. The exception to this rule, however, is that citations to cases decided by the Supreme Court of the United States should be placed first. In citing statutes, cite Massachusetts statutes first and follow the Uniform System of Citation for the rest.

In a string citation introduced by a signal, a semicolon should separate the individual citations. Where a string citation has not been introduced by a signal, a period should separate the individual citations. Each signal requires its own sentence. "See also" cannot be used as signal without being preceded by a "see" signal.

1.06 Pages

When citing material that spans more than one page, separate the beginning and ending page numbers with a hyphen and retain all digits:

Matthews v. Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., 426 Mass. 122, 128-129 (1997)

When the use of a hyphen would create confusion, use the word "to":

6 Moore's Federal Practice § 26.06[2], at 26-41 to 26-42 (3d ed. 2010)

To cite to an entire footnote that spans multiple pages, cite only the page on which the footnote begins:

Caffyn v. Caffyn, 441 Mass. 487, 494 n.16 (2004)

1.07 Parenthetical Phrases

Unless directly quoting another source, parenthetical phrases appearing after citations should not include articles (the, an, a) but should include all connectors (that, which, etc.) and all forms of the verb "to be." Omit final punctuation. For example,

"See G. L. c. 233, § 20B (e) (psychotherapist-patient privilege does not apply to child custody or adoption proceedings if judge finds that it is more important for psychotherapist's evidence to be disclosed than to preserve confidential relationship)." Board of Registration in Medicine v. Doe, 457 Mass. 738, 745 (2010).

Parenthetical phrases appear after any subsequent history to a cited case, as well as after "quoting" or "citing" phrases and citations. For example,

Commonwealth v. Delaney, 425 Mass. 587, 591 (1997), cert. denied, 522 U.S. 1058 (1998), quoting Matter of Kenney, 399 Mass. 431, 435 (1987) ("[t]he fundamental requisite of due process is an opportunity to be heard at a meaningful time and in a meaningful manner").

1.08 Maps and Plans

The engineering department in the Land Court will lend assistance in drafting a plan or map that is suitable for reproduction in the official reports.

2.00 CITATION GUIDELINES

2.01 Court Decisions

When citing a published decision, italicize (underline) case names and use roman type for the letter "v."

```
Commonwealth v. Latimore, 378 Mass. 761 (1979)

Commonwealth v. Delaney, 425 Mass. 587, 591 (1997), cert. denied, 522 U.S. 1058 (1998)
```

Always include denials of certiorari by the United States Supreme Court.

Abbreviate titles of reports according to the Uniform System of Citation. Abbreviate case names according to Appendix 1.

Abbreviations used for subsequent history and other explanatory phrases can be found in Appendix 2.

2.02 Massachusetts Decisions

From 1822 to 1867, the volumes of the official reports were named for the individuals (i.e., the reporters) who prepared the volumes for publication. When citing cases from this era, use the following reporter names, with abbreviations as indicated. A table converting early Massachusetts Reports to these names can be found in Appendix 3.

Pickering (1822-1839)	Pick. e.g., <u>Lawrence</u> v. <u>Stearns</u> , 11 Pick. 500, 501 (1831)
Metcalf (1840-1847)	Met. e.g., <u>Washburn</u> v. <u>Phillips</u> , 2 Met. 296, 298-299 (1841)
Cushing (1848-1853)	Cush. e.g., <u>Robinson</u> v. <u>Gould</u> , 11 Cush. 55, 57 (1853)
Gray (1854-1860)	Gray e.g., <u>Farnsworth</u> v. <u>Taylor</u> , 9 Gray 162 (1858)
Allen (1861-1867)	Allen e.g., <u>Oliver v. Washington Mills</u> , 11 Allen 268, 270 (1865)

Where pagination differs between the original edition and the reprints of the early Massachusetts Reports, use the original pagination as indicated by asterisks appearing in the reprinted version. (Do not include asterisks in citations.)

Citation to Massachusetts Reports from 1867 to the present (i.e., 97 Mass. to the present) should be to the official reports:

Gaffney v. Contributory Retirement Appeal Bd., 423 Mass. 1 (1996)

Citation to Massachusetts Appeals Court Reports should be to the official reports:

Commonwealth v. Bartlett, 41 Mass. App. Ct. 468 (1996)

2.02.1 Subsequent History

<u>S.C.</u> stands for "same case." This is used with a case of either the SJC or the Appeals Court where subsequent action has taken place in the SJC. Note that the SJC reviews the action in the court of origin and does not reverse or affirm Appeals Court decisions.

Examples:

Reversal by the SJC followed by an appeal from convictions at new trial:

<u>Commonwealth</u> v. <u>Lanoue</u>, 392 Mass. 583, 589 (1984), <u>S.C.</u>, 400 Mass. 1007 (1987), and 409 Mass. 1 (1990).

Commonwealth v. Schnopps, 383 Mass. 178, 180 (1981), S.C., 390 Mass. 722 (1984).

Commonwealth v. Haas, 373 Mass. 545, 550 (1977), S.C., 398 Mass. 806 (1986).

Remands for further proceedings:

Onofrio v. Department of Mental Health, 408 Mass. 605 (1990), S.C., 411 Mass. 657 (1992). Dynan v. Fritz, 400 Mass. 230 (1987), S.C., Martin v. F.S. Payne Co., 409 Mass. 753 (1991).

Cases considered by the SJC on further appellate review:

<u>Wilcox</u> v. <u>Riverside Park Enters</u>., 21 Mass. App. Ct. 419, 421 (1986), <u>S.C.</u>., 399 Mass. 533 (1987).

White Constr. Co. v. Commonwealth, 11 Mass. App. Ct. 640, 647 (1981), S.C., 385 Mass. 1005 (1982).

<u>Ferrari</u> v. <u>Toto</u>, 9 Mass. App. Ct. 483 (1980), <u>S.C.</u>, 383 Mass. 36 (1981).

2.02.2 Other Massachusetts Sources

See Appendix 4 for abbreviations the style of citations for sources reporting decisions of Massachusetts lower courts or agencies.

2.03 Federal Court Decisions

Abbreviate the titles of reports according to the Uniform System of Citation.

A citation to a United States Supreme Court decision should be to the United States Reports (U.S.). If that citation is not available, citation should be to S. Ct. or U.S.L.W., in that order.

2.04 Out-of-State Court Decisions

- (a) Where a court's decisions are officially reported, as in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, use only the official citation. No parallel citation is required.
- (b) Where an out-of-State case is found only in the National Reporter System, such as those jurisdictions that have adopted that system as their sole law reporter (e.g, Maine), specify the court in parentheses before the year of decision: e.g., (Me. 1992); (Minn. Ct. App. 1989).
- (c) For those States that have adopted a public domain format, ignore such format in favor of citation under method (a) or (b), as applicable.
 - (d) Abbreviate the titles of reports according to the Uniform System of Citation.

2.05 Unpublished Orders, Decisions, and Slip Opinions

Use the following basic citation form:

name vs. name, court, No. --, slip op. at --- (full date)

Do not cite to online legal research services such as Lexis and Westlaw.

Examples:

- 1. Raines vs. Byrd, U.S. Supreme Ct., No. 96-1671, slip op. at 8 (June 26, 1997)
- 2. United States <u>vs.</u> Labovitz, U.S. Ct. App., No. 94-1725, slip op. at 2 (1st Cir. Mar. 28, 1997)
 - 3. Olin Corp. vs. Fisons PLC, U.S. Dist. Ct., No. 93-11166 (D. Mass. Apr. 24, 1995)

4. Parks vs. Petraglia, Boston Hous. Ct., No. 93-CV-00155 (Jan. 20, 1995)

2.06 Massachusetts Statutes

Citations to the General Laws should refer to the official compilation, including the supplement, if any, in which the cited material appears. Insert spaces between subsections and underline lettered subsections.

Use of the phrases "inserted by," "as appearing in," "as amended by," or "as amended through," with reference to the General Laws, is no longer required except for identifying the source of a quotation, although these phrases may be inserted, in any precise form, at the discretion of the author. Their use may be avoided (again at the discretion of the author) by use of either of the following forms when reference to the statute as in effect at a particular time is important.

Forms of citation to Massachusetts statutory material:

General Laws	e.g.,	G. L. c. 156, § 10 G. L. c. 93A, § 2 (a) (1) G. L. c. 231, § 2, first par. G. L. c. 272, § 99 C 1 G. L. c. 30A, § 14 (7) (a)-(d), (f), (g) G. L. cc. 108, 109
amendment	e.g.,	G. L. c. 175, § 35 (Supp. 1996)
legislative history	e.g.,	G. L. c. 6, § 168, inserted by St. 1972, c. 805, § 1 G. L. c. 156, § 10, as amended through St. 1943, c. 549, § 4
legislative documents	e.g.,	1989 House Doc. No. 482 1992 Senate Doc. No. 301
ordinances	e.g.,	Ordinances, c. 34 (1984), of the city of Boston

If the citation begins a sentence in running text, spell out the abbreviation appearing at the beginning of the citation:

General Laws c. 93A, § 2 (a), makes unlawful

Statute 1997, c. 164, which amended the siting board statute

2.07 Federal Statutes

Cite only to official compilations. There are no spaces between subsections. Do not underline lettered subsections.

United States Code (U.S.C.) e.g., 42 U.S.C. § 1395 (1994) 42 U.S.C. § 1396p(c)(1) (1988 & Supp. IV 1992)

amendments e.g., Pub. L. No. 101-239, 101st Cong., 1st Sess., reprinted in 1989

U.S.C.C.A.N. 1906

Pub. L. No. 101-239, Title VI, Subtitle B, Part 2, § 6411(e)(1), 103

Stat. 2271 (1989)

congressional e.g., H.R. Rep. No. 265, 99th Cong., 1st Sess., pt. 1, at 71-72 (1985)

(Committee on Energy and Commerce)

H.R. Conf. Rep. No. 104-458, 104th Cong., 2d Sess. [page] (1996)

2.08 Out-of-State Statutes

Cite only to official compilations, following the Uniform System of Citation. There are no spaces between subsections. Do not underline lettered subsections.

2.09 Massachusetts Court Rules

Citations to the Rules of Civil Procedure, the Rules of Appellate Procedure, the Rules of the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Rules of Criminal Procedure are followed by a reference to the volume of the Massachusetts Reports in which the SJC promulgated or amended the rule. Include spaces between subparts, but do not underline lettered subparts of rules.

Citations for the Rules of Civil Procedure can be found in Appendix 5.

Citations for the Rules of Appellate Procedure can be found in Appendix 6.

Citations for the Rules of the Supreme Judicial Court can be found in Appendix 7.

Citations for the Rules of Criminal Procedure can be found in Appendix 8.

Citation examples for other Massachusetts court rules can be found in Appendix 9.

2.10 Federal Court Rules

e.g., Fed. R.A.P. xx (20xx) Fed. R. Civ. P. xx (20xx)

```
Fed. R. Crim. P. xxx (20xx)
Fed. R. Evid. xxx (20xx)
```

2.11 Massachusetts Regulations

Cite to the Code of Massachusetts Regulations according to the following examples. There are no spaces between subsections. Do not underline lettered subsections.

```
301 Code Mass. Regs. § 11.01(3) (1993)
106 Code Mass. Regs. § 303.230(A)(2)(b) (1986)
```

Do not use "et seq." when citing multiple provisions of the Code of Massachusetts Regulations. Use multiple section signs only.

```
970 Code Mass. Regs. §§ 5.00 (1999)
```

If the citation begins a sentence in running text, place "Title" at the beginning of the citation.

```
Title 301 Code Mass. Regs. § 11.01(3) (1993) provides that . . . .
```

Cite to the Massachusetts Register only when no citation to the Code of Massachusetts Regulations is available.

```
1171 Mass. Reg. 7-9 (Dec. 10, 2010)
```

2.12 Federal Regulations

Code of Federal Regulations

```
45 C.F.R. § 233.90(c)(1)(v)(B) (1994)
18 C.F.R. § 292.304(e) (1988)
```

Federal Register

```
55 Fed. Reg. 36,813, 36,816 (1990)
53 Fed. Reg. 8034, 8068 (1988)
```

2.13 Massachusetts Constitution

The Massachusetts Constitution will be cited in the same manner as appears in recent volumes of Massachusetts Reports. Common examples are

art. 48, The Initiative, II, § 3

art. 12 of the Declaration of Rights of the Massachusetts Constitution ("Massachusetts Declaration of Rights" is also acceptable)

art. 114 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution

art. 63, § 5, of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, as amended by art. 90 of the Amendments

art. 16 of the Declaration of Rights, as amended by art. 77 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution

Part II, c. 1, § 2, art. 8, of the Constitution of the Commonwealth

art. 101, § 3, of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution

If the citation begins a sentence in running text, spell out the abbreviation appearing at the beginning of the citation:

Article 12 of the Massachusetts Declaration of Rights provides that in a criminal trial

Article 46, § 1, of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution further provides that

2.14 Federal Constitution

e.g., Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution art. I, § 10, of the United States Constitution

2.15 <u>Texts</u>

The titles of texts appear in roman type. Omit language such as "The Law of" or "A Treatise on" when it appears at the beginning of the title.

The author of a text is referred to by last name, with initials used for the author's first name and middle name, if given. Cite all authors. The use of "et al." is not encouraged.

The style of citation for popular texts appears in Appendix 10.

Citation forms for volumes in the Massachusetts Practice Series appear in Appendix 11.

2.16 Periodicals and Articles

The titles of articles and periodicals appear in roman type. Abbreviate the titles of periodicals according to the Uniform System of Citation. The author of an article is referred to by last name only. For example,

Weigand, Employee Duty of Loyalty and the Doctrine of Forfeiture, 42 Boston B.J. 6 (Sept.-Oct. 1998)

Cite to articles in the American Law Reports by the designation "Annot.," followed by the title of the work in roman type. For example,

Annot., Taking and Use of Trial Notes by Jury, 36 A.L.R. 5th 255 (1996 & Supp. 2002)

2.17 Electronic Sources

Cite to the Internet only when the material cited is not available in a traditional printed format.

A citation to material on the Internet should include the last name of the author (if any), the title (in roman type), the uniform resource locator (URL), and the date the document was last updated or accessed, abbreviating the month where appropriate. For example,

See, e.g., Reporting and Analysis, Racial Profiling Data Collection Resource Center at Northeastern University, at http://7/8www.7/8racial7/8profiling 7/8analysis.7/8neu.7/8edu/7/8reporting/ (last viewed May 19, 2008) (asserting that "[c]onstruction of an appropriate benchmark against which to compare traffic citations or warnings is quite challenging. Because research on racial and gender disparities in traffic stops is relatively new, little consensus exists about the most statistically sound population against which to compare traffic stop or citation information").

3.00 WRITING STYLE

3.01 Punctuation

3.01.1 Apostrophe

Singular possessive:
 administratrix's
 Congress's
 Richards's
 witness's

Plural possessive:

Johnsons' Richardses' witnesses'

3.01.2 Brackets

Brackets are used around the expression [sic] and to enclose citations, corrections, explanations, etc., that were not in the original text but that have been subsequently added.

3.01.3 Colon

Use the colon after an independent clause to introduce a list.

3.01.4 Comma

In a list of three or more terms, insert a comma after every term except the last.

The following list provides further examples of comma usage.

Joseph Calloway <u>vs.</u> Richard Smith & others, trustees.

ABC Mortgage Co., Inc. <u>vs.</u> Drury Corp., Inc., & another.

Lydia Griffin, administratrix, <u>vs.</u> Lars Boman.

Commonwealth <u>vs.</u> Marion H. Hall, Sr.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, receiver, <u>vs.</u> Robert Poc. 100,000; 10,000; 1,000

The accident occurred in January, 1996, before . . .

The statute, G. L. c. 123, § 6, violates . . .

See Morgan v. Johnson, supra at 63. See Tucker v. Smith, supra, in which . . .

3.01.5 Dash

The em-dash (--) is used to indicate a break in the structure of a sentence. It should be typed by using two hyphens.

3.01.6 Hyphen

Unless otherwise provided in Appendix 12 (Style of Particular Words), place a hyphen in an adjectival phrase when it precedes the noun it modifies.

Examples: child-support payment; common-law indemnity; felony-murder rule; long-

standing arrangement; second-floor apartment

Otherwise, avoid hyphens.

Examples: the arrangement was long standing;

the action was time barred;

an apartment on the second floor; antitrust; biweekly; codefendant; coconspirator; counterclaim; extrajudicial; interstate;

intrastate; multistate; nonpayment; postjudgment; posttrial; pretrial;

subcontractor; prearrest

Exceptions: Proper noun: anti-Marxist

Looks bad: anti-intellectual

Confusing: re-sign

3.01.7 Parentheses

If a full sentence is enclosed in parentheses, the final punctuation should be included; if less than a full sentence is enclosed, the punctuation should not remain inside the parentheses. Brackets are used within parentheses to avoid double parentheses.

3.01.8 Virgules (slashes)

Avoid using slashes: and/or, his/her, etc. Use "or" in most situations.

3.01.9 Quotation Marks

Quotation marks are commonly used with a colloquialism, e.g., "rock concert," "double aught buckshot," "cruising," "crack" cocaine.

Quotation marks are used in an opinion when material is quoted directly from another source whether it appears in the text or footnotes, or as blocked text. With blocked text, the indentation is only on the left side of the page.

With the exception of colons and semicolons, all punctuation is enclosed in the quotation marks.

An author who wishes to bring a word in a quotation to the reader's attention may use "[sic]." The author may correct or change a word in a quotation as desired. The change should appear in brackets. Omissions should be indicated by the use of ellipses.

3.01.10 Subquotes

Where, within a direct quote, there is material quoted from another source, single quotation marks are used.

"The polling procedure serves a similar purpose because it provides each juror with an opportunity . . . 'to change his mind about a verdict to which he has agreed in the jury room." <u>Commonwealth</u> v. <u>Nettis</u>, 418 Mass. 715, 719 (1994), quoting <u>United States</u> v. <u>Shepherd</u>, 576 F.2d 719, 724 (7th Cir.), cert. denied, 439 U.S. 852 (1978).

If both sources quote identical material, the single quotation marks are unnecessary and the first citation is followed by a second citation.

"We consider the state of the evidence both at the close of the Commonwealth's case, and at the close of all the evidence." <u>Commonwealth</u> v. <u>Zevitas</u>, 418 Mass. 677, 680 (1994), quoting Commonwealth v. Basch, 386 Mass. 620, 622 (1982).

3.02 Colloquy

Colloquies between or among judges, counsel, witnesses, or parties may appear in the text or footnotes and may be blocked or may run on in the text. See, e.g., <u>Commonwealth</u> v. <u>Woods</u>, 419 Mass. 366, 375 n.13 (1995) (run-on in footnote); <u>Commonwealth</u> v. <u>Barnoski</u>, 418 Mass. 523, 534 n.6 (1994) (footnote); <u>Commonwealth</u> v. <u>Noble</u>, 417 Mass. 341, 343 (1994) (footnote); Commonwealth v. Fordham, 417 Mass. 10, 16 (1994) (blocked in text).

3.03 <u>Alterations in Quotations</u>

Parentheticals regarding alterations to quotations, such as (citation omitted) or (emphasis added), are placed immediately following the altered quotation and before the citation to the quoted source.

When the alteration appears in the quotation before the last sentence quoted, use

"(Citation omitted.)" or "(Emphasis added.)" When the alteration appears in the last sentence quoted, use "(citation omitted)." or "(emphasis added)."

If multiple alterations have been made (e.g., a citation has been omitted and emphasis has been added), this may be indicated in the same parenthetical, using a semicolon between the phrases. For example:

There is thus significant justification for the position that "because Congress only expressly permitted employers to hold . . . alcoholics to the same objective standards of conduct as other employees even though their disability causes misconduct . . . Congress implicitly did not intend to extend the same employer prerogative to employees with other disabilities" (emphasis added; citation omitted). Den Hartog v. Wasatch Academy, 129 F.3d 1076, 1086 (10th Cir. 1997).

Finally, if the altered quotation is itself enclosed within parentheses, the alteration should be noted in brackets within the parentheses. For example:

See G. L. c. 234A, § 39 ("The court shall have authority to excuse a juror . . . only upon a finding of an emergency or other compelling reason" [emphasis added]).

3.04 Cross-references

Within the same opinion. When reference is made in an opinion to a portion of the text within the same opinion, <u>supra</u> and <u>infra</u> may be used. With <u>supra</u> and <u>infra</u>, the page number is used without the abbreviation "p."

<u>Supra</u> and <u>infra</u> may be used in an opinion to refer to a footnote appearing elsewhere in the same opinion. (E.g., "See note 6, <u>supra</u>.") Do not use a page number or the abbreviation "n."

In addition, <u>supra</u> and <u>infra</u> (as well as <u>id</u>., where permissible) may be used in referring to cases and statutory material cited within the same opinion. <u>Ibid</u>. is never used.

To dissenting and concurring opinions. When citation is made within a majority opinion to a dissenting or concurring opinion in that case, use "post at ." If there is only one dissenting or concurring opinion, there is no need to identify the author (i.e., "post at [xxxx, J., dissenting]"). If there is more than one dissenting or concurring opinion, use "post at (xxxx, J., dissenting)" only if the text does not identify the dissenting or concurring Justice. For citations to the majority opinion from a dissenting or concurring opinion, use "ante at ."

<u>To opinions within the same volume</u>. When citation is made to a separate opinion within the same volume, <u>ante</u> and <u>post</u> take the place of the volume number. The first time such a citation is made, it must be a full citation: include the case name and the opening page, as well as the cited page and year of decision (e.g., Commonwealth v. Smith, ante 156, 163-164 [2006]).

After a case has been cited in this manner, it is then permissible to use a short form, e.g., <u>supra</u> at 163.

3.05 <u>Capitalization</u>

3.05.1 Governments, Officials, & Parties

Capitalize the following words when they appear in the text of an opinion. It is not necessary to alter quotations where these words appear in lower-case type.

- 1. Federal, such as Federal government, Federal Reserve, Federal constitutional right, Federal law, etc.
- 2. State, when referring to a State of the United States.
- 3. Commonwealth.
- 4. Titles of the Commonwealth's constitutional officers:

Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Treasurer and Receiver General, Auditor, Attorney General

5. Names of Statewide Commonwealth offices (except when defined as lower case):

Department of Revenue, Department of Environmental Protection

6. Titles of the heads of Statewide Commonwealth offices (except when defined as lower case):

Commissioner of Revenue, Registrar of Motor Vehicles

7. Courts:

Supreme Judicial Court, Appeals Court, Superior Court, District Court, Probate and Family Court, Juvenile Court

- 8. Justice, when referring to a Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court or the Appeals Court (but not when referring to a single justice: for example, "A single justice reported the case").
- 9. References to the Supreme Court or intermediate appellate court of a

particular State or the United States Court of Appeals for a particular circuit.

10. Names of governmental bodies:

Appellate Tax Board Congress

Legislature Assembly

Senate Parliament

House General Court

Do not capitalize the following:

bureaus or divisions of the Commonwealth offices (except Division of Insurance and Division of Special Education)
mayors and lesser municipal officials
district attorney
city (e.g., "city of Boston")
town (e.g., "town of Danvers")
assistant attorney general
house of correction
zoning boards
other municipal-level entities

3.05.2 State and Federal Constitutions

The word "Constitution" is capitalized in references to either the Federal or a State Constitution. References to major parts of either, such as "Declaration of Rights" or "Fifth Amendment," take capitals, but expressions such as "due process," "commerce clause," and "equal protection clause" do not.

3.05.3 Statutes

Capitalize the expressions "Statute of Frauds" and "Statute of Wills" (but not "statute of limitations").

3.05.4 Title or Designation Preceding a Name

Capitalize a title or designation preceding a name, e.g., Officer Smith, Trooper Johnson, President Obama, Governor Patrick.

3.06 Specific Word Styles

A listing of the style of particular words appears in Appendix 12. For words not appearing on the list, consult the latest available unabridged edition of Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language.

3.07 Gender Neutral Writing

The following suggestions are offered as aids to the use of inclusive language in opinion writing.

1. Use plural pronouns and antecedents.

Attorneys should conscientiously represent the interests of their clients.

2. Eliminate the direct object.

An attorney should conscientiously represent the interests of clients.

3. Eliminate the personal pronoun.

An attorney can give you his advice as to a possible solution.

becomes

An attorney can give you advice as to a possible solution.

4. Replace the personal pronoun with "the," "this," or "a."

A prudent testator will review his will to ensure that it continues to provide for an appropriate distribution of his estate.

becomes

A prudent testator will review the will from time to time to ensure that it continues to provide for an appropriate distribution of the estate.

5. Use the gender-neutral "who" or "whose."

A law professor often assumes that if a student cannot write clearly, <u>he</u> cannot analyze a complex legal problem.

becomes

A law professor often assumes that a student who cannot write clearly cannot analyze a complex legal problem.

6. Use passive voice instead of active voice.

If the judge concludes that venue is improper, <u>he</u> should grant a motion to transfer venue. becomes

If the judge concludes that venue is improper, a motion to transfer venue should be granted.

7. Repeat the noun.

If the judge concludes that the court lacks jurisdiction, he should dismiss the appeal. becomes

If the judge concludes that the court lacks jurisdiction, then the judge should dismiss the appeal.

Additional suggestions:

Use Avoid presiding juror foreman member of congress, senator, or congressman representative chairman chair anchor anchorman colleagues brethren fire fighter fireman homemaker housewife executive businessman representative spokesman reasonable person reasonable man artificial man-made staff manpower diplomacy statesmanship server waiter

4.00 GUIDELINES FOR FORMATTING OPINIONS

4.01 <u>Guidelines for Word Processing</u>

All new decisions or documents that may become part of such decisions must be composed in Word 10 and saved in the .docx format.

The required font is Courier New, twelve-point type. Separate sentences with two spaces after a period. Indent the first line of each footnote.

When copying and pasting material into Word 10 decisions from any source other than another Word 10 document, always choose the "Keep Text Only" or "past Special, Unformatted Text" options. This eliminates disruptive formatting from being pasted into the decision.

Indent "snapper" lines at the end of an opinion through the use of a series of seven tabs; do not change the margin (e.g., to a 4" left margin) or use of a series of spaces. Where a second or third line of a "snapper" paragraph is needed, insert a hard return at the end of each line, and begin each new line with a series of tabs followed by an additional two spaces to further indent the second or third line of the "snapper"). Thus:

Judgment affirmed.

Order denying motion for new trial <u>affirmed</u>.

4.02 <u>Case Captions</u> and Party Designations

(a) Criminal Cases

- 1. <u>Case caption</u>. The name that appears in the caption is the name that appears on the complaint or indictment. Where there is an obvious error in the indictment or complaint, the defendant's correct name should be used with an explanatory footnote.
- 2. <u>Party designation</u>. The defendant can be referred to in the text either as "the defendant" or by his or her last name.

(b) <u>Multiple Indictments and Companion Cases</u>

1. <u>Case caption</u>. Each indictment (the conviction of which is appealed) is considered a case. When more than one indictment and more than one defendant exists, there must be a companion case for each.

Examples:

Commonwealth <u>vs.</u> David Alvarez (and seventeen companion cases). 422 Mass. 198 (1996)

Commonwealth vs. Ventry Gordon (and six companion cases). 422 Mass. 816 (1996)

Commonwealth vs. Daniel J. Curtis (and a companion case¹).
417 Mass. 619 (1996)

DISTINGUISH: When there is more than one defendant named in the indictment itself, it is considered one case and is indicated in the case caption by "& another" or "others."

Example:

Commonwealth vs. Max J. Allen & others.¹ 379 Mass. 564 (1980)

(c) Tax Cases

- 1. <u>Case caption</u>. The party appealing is named first. The title "Commissioner of Revenue" is used rather than the commissioner's name.
- 2. <u>Party designation</u>. The taxpayer, whether individual or corporate, should be referred to in the text as "taxpayer." It is also correct, for an individual, to simply use his or her last name. The party is not referred to as "plaintiff" or "petitioner."

In most cases, the appeal is from a decision of the Appellate Tax Board. In the text, it should be referred to as:

Appellate Tax Board (board)

Refer to the Commissioner of Revenue in the text as:

Commissioner of Revenue (commissioner)

¹ Commonwealth vs. Mark J. Giglio.

¹ Michael R. Cappiello and Martin Koplow.

(d) Administrator(trix) or Executor(trix) of an Estate

General Laws c. 195, § 19: The administrator(trix) or executor(trix) of an estate is sued in his or her fiduciary capacity. The administrator(trix) or executor(trix) does not appear in the case caption in an individual capacity, unless personal liability is alleged in the complaint.

- 1. <u>Case caption</u>. The fiduciary's capacity is indicated in the case caption but not in general citations.
 - 2. Party designation. Refer to as executor(trix) or administrator(trix) when appropriate.

(e) Miscellaneous Probate Cases

- 1. <u>Case caption</u>. Administrator(trix) de bonis non and administrator(trix) with the will annexed may be indicated by using just administrator(trix) in the case caption and giving the full title in the text.
- 2. <u>Party designation</u>. If an individual or a group of individuals are sued in more than one capacity, that is indicated in the case caption.

Examples:	
	, individually and as administrator,
	, executors and trustees,

(f) Trusts

<u>Case caption</u>. The trustee is the party as the trust itself cannot be sued. Provide the name of the trust in a footnote.

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Americo Lopes, trustee, <sup>1</sup> <u>vs</u>. City of Peabody. 430 Mass. 305 (1999)
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<u>Exception</u>. Where a trust is organized as a Massachusetts business trust, it can be sued as if it were a corporation. Therefore, the name of the trust can be used in the case caption.

Marco Realty Trust vs. Commissioner of Revenue. 385 Mass. 798 (1982)

(g) Corporations

A corporation is sued in its corporate capacity, and the corporate name should appear in

¹ Of the 841 Lake Realty Trust.

the case heading.

To get the official names of insurance companies and banks, look for a piece of their stationery or an official stamp in the record appendix.

(h) <u>Partnerships</u>

General Laws cc. 108 and 109 govern the formation of general and limited partnerships.

The name of the partnership should not be used in the case caption; ideally, all partners should be named. See, e.g., <u>Anderson</u> v. <u>Phoenix Investment Counsel of Boston, Inc.</u>, 387 Mass. 444 (1982).

The name of an LLP or LLC may be used in a case caption. See, e.g., <u>Imprimis Investors</u>, <u>LLC</u> v. <u>KPMG Peat Marwick</u>, <u>LLP</u>, 69 Mass. App. Ct. 218 (2007).

(i) Unions

<u>DiLuzio</u> v. <u>United Elec., Radio & Mach. Workers, Local 274</u>, 386 Mass. 314 (1982), held that labor unions are legal entities for the purpose of suing or being sued. Therefore, the official name of the union appears in the case caption.

(j) Minors or Incompetent Persons

A minor or incompetent person cannot be sued. Parent(s), a guardian, or a conservator are named parties.

With respect to minors, the term p/p/a is not to be used. See, e.g., <u>Bouchard</u> v. <u>DeGagne</u>, 368 Mass. 45 (1975).

Where an incompetent is of age, his or her surname is used. See, e.g., <u>Matter of Spring</u>, 380 Mass. 629 (1980).

Where the incompetent is not of age, he or she is referred to by an assigned pseudonym. See, e.g., Matter of Moe, 385 Mass. 555 (1982).

(k) <u>Custody and Adoption Cases</u>

1. <u>Case caption</u>. In custody and adoption cases, the case captions appear according to the following examples:

Custody of Brandon. 407 Mass. 1 (1990)

Adoption of Mary. 414 Mass. 705 (1993)

2. <u>Party designation</u>. The child is referred to by an assigned pseudonym. The real name of the child is never used.

(1) Juveniles

1. <u>Case caption</u>. In a case involving a juvenile, the case caption appears as follows:

Patrick P., a juvenile, <u>vs</u>. Commonwealth. 421 Mass. 186 (1995)

2. Party designation. The name of the juvenile is never used. Refer to the "juvenile."

(m) Workers' Compensation Cases

1. Case caption. Use the claimant's last name, followed by the word "Case." E.g.,

Gateley's Case. 415 Mass. 397 (1993)

2. <u>Party designation</u>. The person who is appealing is referred to as the claimant.

Remember to distinguish between administrative judges and administrative law judges at the Department of Industrial Accidents. The two titles are not interchangeable. An administrative judge is a hearing officer or trial judge. He or she, individually, renders a decision based on the evidence presented before him or her. The reviewing board, which is comprised of administrative law judges, is the appellate branch within the department. Administrative law judges review the decisions of administrative judges and issue opinions via multi-member panels.

(n) Inanimate Objects

Inanimate objects can be sued where they are the goods that have been forfeited pursuant to G. L. c. 94C, § 47. A description of the inanimate object appears in the case caption.

Commonwealth vs. One 1976 Cadillac DeVille Automobile. 380 Mass. 411 (1980)

Commonwealth <u>vs.</u> Fourteen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars. 421 Mass. 1 (1995)

(o) Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

1. <u>Case caption</u>. Use the petitioner's last name, followed by a comma and the word "petitioner."

Upton, petitioner. 387 Mass. 359 (1982)

2. Party designation. The petitioning party may be referred to as "petitioner."

(p) Cities and Towns

General rule. Omit the term "city of" or "town of" unless the expression begins a party name.

Roda Realty Trust <u>vs</u>. Board of Assessors of Belmont. 385 Mass. 493 (1982)

Worcester Vocational Teachers Association <u>vs.</u> City of Worcester. 385 Mass. 1103 (1982)

Note. The name of a board or committee precedes the municipality's name: e.g., Rent Control Board of Belmont; School Committee of Beverly; Retirement Board of Springfield, Board of Selectmen of Wenham.

(q) Office Holders

The title of the office appears in the case caption, not the surname of the office holder.

Attorney General <u>vs.</u> Travelers Insurance Co. 385 Mass. 598 (1982)

Libby vs. Commissioner of Correction. 385 Mass. 421 (1982)

(r) Sexually Dangerous Persons (SDP)

In appeals from petitions for release from confinement under G. L. c. 123A, \S 9, the individual's last name appears in the case caption, followed by a comma and the word "petitioner." In the text, the individual is referred to as "petitioner."

George Johnstone, petitioner. 453 Mass. 544 (2009)

In appeals from classifications under G. L. c. 6, § 178M, the case caption contains the individual's registry number, in the following format. In the text, the individual is referred to as "plaintiff" or "Doe."

John Doe, Sex Offender Registry Board No. 3974 vs. Sex Offender Registry Board. 457 Mass. 53 (2010)

In appeals from SDP adjudications under G. L. c. 123A, § 12 (b), the case caption is identical to captions used in criminal cases. In the text, the individual is referred to as "defendant."

Commonwealth vs. Joseph Blake. 454 Mass. 267 (2009)

(s) Interveners

Interveners (note spelling) are usually indicated by "& another" or "& others," with a footnote detailing the names of the interveners.

Gale Costa <u>vs</u>. Fall River Housing Authority & another. 453 Mass. 614 (2009)

¹ The Attorney General, intervener.

(t) <u>Double Case Captions</u>

Double case captions appear in the rare circumstance when cases separately argued are addressed in a single opinion. This is not the same as cases being consolidated in the trial court or in an appellate court.

The New York Times Company <u>vs</u>. Commissioner of Revenue. Federal Express Corporation <u>vs</u>. Commissioner of Revenue. 427 Mass. 399 (1998)

(u) Third-Party Cases

A third-party plaintiff or defendant is indicated in the case caption as follows.

Louise R. MacDonald vs. Joseph N. Najjar; Canada Dry Corporation, third-party defendant.

362 Mass. 119 (1972)

4.03 Snappers; General

A judgment is the final decisive act taken by a court in setting forth the rights of the parties. The judgment may include a decree and order from which an appeal lies. Traditionally, a decree was the final act taken by an equity court. Today we use judgment as the term for final disposition in either an equity or legal proceeding.

A verdict is handed down by a jury. Also, an appeal is taken from a judgment, not a verdict.

In drafting a judgment or snapper the lower court must be given clear instruction. If the words "So ordered" are used, they should be preceded by a statement making the disposition clear.

The following distinctions should be kept in mind: The SJC affirms, reverses, or modifies judgments and remands cases.

The court will sometimes issue an order in a case "with opinion or opinions to follow"; <u>no snapper</u> is needed when opinion is subsequently released. See, e.g., <u>Commonwealth</u> v. <u>Bernardo</u> B., 453 Mass. 158 (2009).

No snapper is necessary on opinions answering questions certified to this court by the Federal District Court or the Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. See, e.g., <u>Foxworth</u> v. <u>St. Amand</u>, 457 Mass. 200 (2010).

A number of common errors committed in drafting an order or snapper are illustrated in a law review article written by former Chief Justice Robert W. Calvert of the Supreme Court of Texas (6 Tex. Tech. L. Rev. 915 [1975]).

1. Do not mistake the lower court for its judgment.

Ex. "We deny the petitions and affirm [the order of the] Interstate Commerce Commission."

2. Do not mistake the case for the judgment below.

Ex. "The case [judgment] is affirmed."

3. Do not mistake the lower court's opinion for its judgment.

Ex. "The opinion [judgment] of the District Court is reversed."

4. Do not mistake the judgment for the case.

Ex. "The judgment of the trial court is reversed and [the case] remanded."

5. Do not omit a remand.

Ex. "The judgment that the plaintiff take nothing is reversed" should read, "We reverse the

judgment and remand for a determination of damages."

4.03.1 Judgment Reversed or Vacated

The snapper "Judgment reversed" should be used when the judge in the trial court should have disposed of a case in a different manner. If the trial judge may not have been incorrect in deciding a case but the SJC is remanding the case for further proceedings, the snapper "Judgment vacated" should be used.

4.03.2 Common Examples; Civil Cases

- (a) <u>Judgment affirmed</u>.
- (b) Judgment reversed.
- (c) The judgment is vacated, and the case is remanded to the Superior Court for entry of an order declaring that

So ordered.

(d) <u>Judgment affirmed.</u> Order denying motion for a new trial affirmed.

4.03.3 Common Examples; Criminal Cases

- (a) Judgment affirmed.
- (b) <u>Judgment reversed.</u> Verdict set aside.
- (c) If the evidence remaining after a suppression motion is allowed is insufficient to warrant a conviction on the charges, then judgment is entered for the defendant, or if a retrial is implausible or impossible:

Judgment reversed.

Verdict set aside.

Judgment for the defendant.

- (d) <u>Judgment affirmed.</u>
 Order denying motion for a new trial affirmed.
- (e) If the case was tried to a judge rather than a jury:

Judgment reversed.

Finding set aside.

4.03.4 Particular Cases

(a) Appellate Division

When the Appellate Division agrees with the trial court, it dismisses the report.

Order of Appellate Division dismissing report affirmed.

Order of Appellate Division reversed.

Judgment for the plaintiff on the findings of the District Court.

(b) Appellate Tax Board

Decision of the Appellate Tax Board reversed (affirmed).

(c) Arbitration

A judgment of a lower court is either to "confirm" or "vacate" an arbitration award.

Judgment affirmed.

(d) Care and Protection

The judge's order granting the petition to dispense with parental consent to adoption of the two children is affirmed.

So ordered.

The judge's order committing the children to the care and protection of the department and the orders allowing the petitions to dispense with the need for consent to adoption are affirmed.

So ordered.

(e) Companion and Consolidated Cases

The snapper should recognize multiple judgments.

Judgments affirmed (reversed).

(f) Contributory Retirement Appeal Board

The judgment of the Superior Court affirming the Contributory Retirement Appeal Board's decision to deny benefits is affirmed.

So ordered.

The judgment of the Superior Court is vacated. An order is to enter remanding the case to the Contributory Retirement Appeal Board for further proceedings consistent with this opinion.

So ordered.

(g) Multiple Convictions

An order and snapper should clearly identify which convictions are being reviewed (convictions that are filed or not appealed do not count; count only those convictions from which an appeal is taken).

(h) Dismissal

Appeal dismissed.

(i) Habeas Corpus

Order denying petition for writ of habeas corpus affirmed.

(j) Labor Relations Commission

Decision (or order) of commission dismissing the . . . affirmed.

(k) Medical Malpractice Tribunal

Judgment of dismissal affirmed.

The findings of the tribunal are to be replaced by the decision of this court that the offer of proof of the original plaintiffs, if properly substantiated, is sufficient to raise a legitimate question of liability appropriate for judicial inquiry. The judgment of dismissal is vacated and the present plaintiffs may proceed with their claims.

So ordered.

(l) Mootness

The judgment is vacated, not on the merits but because the case became moot, and a new judgment is to be entered dismissing the action.

So ordered.

The issues raised on appeal are moot and the appeal is dismissed. The judgment is to stand.

So ordered.

(m) Rate Setting Commission

The judgment of the Superior Court reversing the decision of the commission is affirmed.

So ordered.

5.00 PUBLICATION OF MASSACHUSETTS OPINIONS

5.01 Slip opinions; advance sheets; bound volumes

Opinions of the SJC and the Appeals Court are originally released in slip opinion form and contain the opinion and certain preliminary material added by the Reporter's office (county of origin, date of argument, date of decision, panel, catchwords indicating various issues, statement of procedural history, and listing of counsel).

Each week's decisions are then published in weekly advance sheet form. The advance sheets include headnotes written by the Reporter's office and permanent pagination provided by the official printer, thus making official citations available upon publication of the advance sheets. Decisions issued by Wednesday of a given week will appear in the issue of advance sheets dated Friday of the same week. Any corrections or amendments to the advance sheets should be forwarded to the Reporter by 2 P.M. on Wednesday so that they may appear in the next issue of the advance sheets. Each weekly issue of advance sheets will be mailed to subscribers on Friday.

Slip opinions are superseded by the publication of the advance sheets. If discrepancies exist between the slip opinion and the advance sheet versions, the advance sheet version controls. If discrepancies exist between print and electronic versions of a slip opinion, the print version controls.

After a sufficient number of advance sheet pages have been published, the volume is closed and these pages form the bound volume. Any corrections to the advance sheets should be forwarded to the Reporter by mail or e-mail so that they may appear in the bound volume. The bulk of such corrections do not require that replacement pages be mailed to subscribers to the advance sheets (e.g., typographical errors that do not blur the author's meaning). If a Justice wishes to amend an opinion, an amended replacement page is prepared. If a significant error is found that affects the meaning of the opinion or in some way makes the opinion unclear, a corrected replacement page is prepared.

Advance sheet pamphlets are superseded by the publication of the bound volume. If discrepancies exist between the advance sheet and bound volume versions, the bound volume version controls.

The bound volumes of the Massachusetts Reports and Massachusetts Appeals Court Reports contain the only official text of the opinions of the SJC and Appeals Court. If discrepancies exist between any other version of a case and the bound volume version of the Massachusetts Reports or Massachusetts Appeals Court Reports, the bound volume version controls.

5.02 Electronic resources.

- 1. The official Web site of the Reporter's office is www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/sjc/about/reporter-of-decisions, which is also found at www.massreports.com. This Web site includes the following:
- (a) Daily slip opinions. An announcement is made on the Web site (under "New Published Opinions") at 8 <u>A.M.</u> indicating whether the Supreme Judicial Court or Appeals Court intends to issue opinions at 10 <u>A.M.</u> and listing the case captions and docket numbers of those opinions each court intends to release. Slip opinions are posted to the Web site daily after 10 <u>A.M.</u> They are removed at the end of two weeks and, thereafter, may be found in the archive of published opinions (see below).
- (b) Registration to receive notification of the release of slip opinions by e-mail on a daily basis.
 - (c) Historical information regarding the Reporter's office, from 1804 to the present.
 - (d) A downloadable copy of the SJC Style Manual in PDF format.
- (e) Full text of memorials to Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court that have been published in the Massachusetts Reports, as well as the full text of memorials to Justices of the Appeals Court that have been published in the Massachusetts Appeals Court Reports.
- 2. As part of its contract with the Reporter's office, LexisNexis has created a free Web site at www.lexisnexis.com/clients/macourts. This Web site includes the following:
- (a) Searchable, free access to an archive of published opinions of the Supreme Judicial Court and the Appeals Court, from 2001 to the present.
- (b) Searchable, free access to unpublished decisions of the Appeals Court issued pursuant to its rule 1:28 (unpublished decisions), which have been released since the decision of the Appeals Court in Chace v. Curran, 71 Mass. App. Ct. 258, 260 n.4 (2008). These decisions are primarily addressed to the parties and, therefore, may not fully address the facts of the case or the panel's decisional rationale. Moreover, rule 1:28 decisions are not circulated to the entire court and, therefore, represent only the views of the panel that decided the case. A summary decision pursuant to rule 1:28, issued after February 25, 2008, may be cited for its persuasive value but, because of the limitations noted above, not as binding precedent.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

ABBREVIATIONS FOR CASE NAMES

- 1. Do not abbreviate the first word of a party's name.
- 2. Do not use "Inc." if the name of the firm also contains words that clearly indicate that the entity is a business (e.g., Co., Bros., Corp., Ass'n).
- 3. Do not include the words "City of," "Town of," or "Inhabitants of" in citations. However, these words are included in the "running heads" (i.e., the page headers that appear at the top of each page of the opinions in the advance sheets and the bound volume).
- 4. The words "Board of" are dropped when the expression refers to constituent members (e.g., "Board of Overseers" or "Board of Selectmen"). The words are retained in such expressions as "Board of Appeals" or "Board of Health." Where a municipal official or board is a party, the name of the city (or town) should be retained. The name of the city (or town) appears at the end of the party's name (e.g., Smith v. Board of Appeals of Salem; Jones v. Mayor of Peabody) and not the beginning (e.g., Smith v. Salem Board of Appeals).
- 5. The following words and the names of States are to be abbreviated for purposes of citation. Abbreviations for the names of States appear in the Uniform System of Citation. Unless otherwise indicated, add an "s" inside the period to make an abbreviation plural.

Accident	Acc.	Atlantic	Atl.
Administrat[ion, ive]	Admin.	Authority	Auth.
Administrat[or, rix]	Adm'[r, x]	Automobile	Auto.
Agricultur[al, e]	Agric.	Avenue	Ave.
And	&	Board	Bd.
America[n]	Am.	Boulevard	Blvd.
Associate	Assoc.	Brotherhood	Bhd.
Association	Ass'n	Brothers	Bros.
Assurance	Assur.	Builder	Bldr.

Building	Bldg.	Electronic	Elec.
Bureau	Bur.	Engineer	Eng'r
Casualty	Cas.	Engineering	Eng'g
Cent[er, re]	Ctr.	Enterprise	Enter.
Central	Cent.	Environment	Env't
Chemical	Chem.	Environmental	Envtl.
Civil	Civ.	Equipment	Equip.
Commission	Comm'n	Exchange	Exch.
Commissioner	Comm'r	Execut[or, rix]	Ex'[r,x]
Committee	Comm.	Federal	Fed.
Company	Co.	Federation	Fed'n
Consolidated	Consol.	Fidelity	Fid.
Construction	Constr.	Financ[e, ial, ing]	Fin.
Continental	Cont.	Foundation	Found.
Contract[ing, or]	Contr.	General	Gen.
Cooperative	Coop.	Government	Gov't
Corporation	Corp.	Guaranty	Guar.
Department	Dep't	Hospital	Hosp.
Development	Dev.	Housing	Hous.
Distribut[ing, or]	Distrib.	Incorporated	Inc.
District	Dist.	Indemnity	Indem.
Division	Div.	Independent	Indep.
Domestic	Dom.	Industr[y, ies, ial]	Indus.
East[ern]	E.	Information	Info.
Education[al]	Educ.	Institut[e, ion]	Inst.
Electric[al, ity]	Elec.	Insurance	Ins.

International	Int'l	Property	Prop.	
Investment	Inv.	Public	Pub.	
Junior	Jr.	Publication[s],	Publ.	
Laborator[y, ies]	Lab.	Publish[er, ing]		
Liability	Liab.	Purchasing	Purch.	
Limited	Ltd.	Railroad	R.R.	
Litigation	Litig.	Railway	Ry.	
Machine[ry]	Mach.	Redevelopment	Redev.	
Management	Mgt.	Refining	Ref.	
Manufacturer	Mfr.	Reproduct[ion, ive]	Reprod.	
Manufacturing	Mfg.	Road	Rd.	
Market	Mkt.	Savings	Sav.	
Marketing	Mktg.	School[s]	Sch.	
Medic[ine, al]	Med.	Securit[y, ies]	Sec.	
Metropolitan	Metro.	Service	Serv.	
Mortgage	Mtge.	Society	Soc'y	
Municipal	Mun.	South[ern]	S.	
Mutual	Mut.	Square	Sq.	
National	Nat'l	Steamship[s]	S.S.	
North[ern]	N.	Street	St.	
Number	No.	Superintendent	Supt.	
Orchestra	Orch.	Surety	Sur.	
Organiz[ation, ing]	Org.	System[s]	Sys.	
Pacific	Pac.	Techn[ical, ology]	Tech.	
Pharmaceutical	Pharm.	Telecommunication[s]	Telecomm.	
Product[ion]	Prod.	Tele[gram, graph, phone, vision]	Tel.	

Theological	Theol.	University	Univ.
Transport[ation]	Transp.	Utility	Util.
Treasurer	Treas.	West[ern]	W.
Typographical	Typo.		

MISCELLANEOUS ABBREVIATIONS

affirmed aff'd

American Law Reports A.L.R.

amended do not abbreviate

Annotation Annot.

appeal do not abbreviate

certiorari cert.

certiorari denied cert. denied

certiorari dismissed cert. dismissed

certiorari granted cert. granted

chapter(s) c. & cc.

Circuit Cir.

denied do not abbreviate

dismissed do not abbreviate

edition ed.

footnote(s) n. & nn.

modified do not abbreviate

paragraph par.

rehearing do not abbreviate

reversed rev'd

revised rev.

volume vol.

EARLY MASSACHUSETTS REPORTS CONVERSION TABLE

1 Pick. = 18 Mass.	4 Met. = 45 Mass.	5 Gray = 71 Mass.
2 Pick. = 19 Mass.	5 Met. = 46 Mass.	6 Gray = 72 Mass.
3 Pick. = 20 Mass.	6 Met. = 47 Mass.	7 Gray = 73 Mass.
4 Pick. = 21 Mass.	7 Met. = 48 Mass.	8 Gray = 74 Mass.
5 Pick. = 22 Mass.	8 Met. = 49 Mass.	9 Gray = 75 Mass.
6 Pick. = 23 Mass.	9 Met. = 50 Mass.	10 Gray = 76 Mass.
7 Pick. = 24 Mass.	10 Met. = 51 Mass.	11 Gray = 77 Mass.
8 Pick. = 25 Mass.	11 Met. = 52 Mass.	12 Gray = 78 Mass.
9 Pick. = 26 Mass.	12 Met. = 53 Mass.	13 Gray = 79 Mass.
10 Pick. = 27 Mass.	13 Met. = 54 Mass.	14 Gray = 80 Mass.
11 Pick. = 28 Mass.	1 Cush. $= 55$ Mass.	15 Gray = 81 Mass.
12 Pick. = 29 Mass.	2 Cush. = 56 Mass.	16 Gray = 82 Mass.
13 Pick. $=$ 30 Mass.	3 Cush, = 57 Mass.	1 Allen = 83 Mass.
14 Pick. = 31 Mass.	4 Cush. = 58 Mass.	2 Allen = 84 Mass.
15 Pick. = 32 Mass.	5 Cush. = 59 Mass.	3 Allen = 85 Mass.
16 Pick. = 33 Mass.	6 Cush. = 60 Mass.	4 Allen = 86 Mass.
17 Pick. = 34 Mass.	7 Cush. $= 61$ Mass.	5 Allen = 87 Mass.
18 Pick. = 35 Mass.	8 Cush. = 62 Mass.	6 Allen = 88 Mass.
19 Pick. $=$ 36 Mass.	9 Cush. $= 63$ Mass.	7 Allen = 89 Mass.
20 Pick. $=$ 37 Mass.	10 Cush. = 64 Mass.	8 Allen = 90 Mass.
21 Pick. = 38 Mass.	11 Cush. $= 65$ Mass.	9 Allen = 91 Mass.
22 Pick. = 39 Mass.	12 Cush. = 66 Mass.	10 Allen = 92 Mass.
23 Pick. $=$ 40 Mass.	1 Gray = 67 Mass.	11 Allen = 93 Mass.
24 Pick. = 41 Mass.	2 Gray = 68 Mass.	12 Allen = 94 Mass.
1 Met. = 42 Mass.	3 Gray = 69 Mass.	13 Allen = 95 Mass.
2 Met. = 43 Mass.	4 Gray = 70 Mass.	14 Allen = 96 Mass.
3 Met. = 44 Mass.		

STYLE OF CITATION FOR MISCELLANEOUS MASSACHUSETTS SOURCES

Board of Registration in Medicine:

Matter of Listernick, Adjudicatory Case No. 03-37-DALA (May 16, 2007)

Department of Public Utilities/Department of Telecommunications and Energy:

Bay State Gas Co., D.T.E. 05-27, at 189-190 (2005) Haverhill Gas Co., D.P.U. 246, at 7 (1980)

Massachusetts Attorney Discipline Reports:

Matter of Kelley, 24 Mass. Att'y Discipline Rep. 392 (2008)

Massachusetts Discrimination Law Reporter:

Blue v. Aramark Corporation, 27 Mass. Discrimination L. Rep. 73 (2004)

Massachusetts Labor Cases:

City of Holyoke, 29 M.L.C. 97 (2002)

Massachusetts Workers' Compensation Reports:

Frechette v. Northeastern University, 21 Mass. Workers' Comp. Rep. 105 (2007)

Reports of the Attorney General:

Rep. A.G., Pub. Doc. No. 12, at 55 (1966)

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APPENDIX 12

STYLE OF PARTICULAR WORDS

as to whether (avoid; omit "as to") attorney-at-law A Attorney General aboveground (adj.) above-mentioned (avoid) attorney-in-fact abridgment attorney's fees access (v.) (avoid) audiotape (n. and v.) accidentally (not "accidently") audio-visual accommodation Auditor acknowledgment automobile (not "auto") Avenue (when one) action (if a law matter; "suit" if equity avenues (when more than one) matter) adversary (not "adversarial") a while (n.) adviser awhile (adv.) advisory axe African-American aforementioned (avoid) В air conditioning alcoholic beverages control commission baby-sitter all-alcoholic license baby-sitting all right (not "alright") back-dating all together (i.e., unity of place or time) band-aid altogether (i.e., entirely) bankbook amendments to the Constitution ("to" not bankruptcy court bar counsel "of") and/or (avoid use; see § 3.01.8) based on (not "upon") before (not "preliminary to") annulment annulling before-mentioned (avoid) ante mortem (two words) benefiting anti (generally no hyphen; see § 3.01.6) benefited appeal from bilateral **Appellate Division** bimonthly Appellate Tax Board bind-over appendices blacktop Appendix (i.e., attachment to opinion) blood alcohol test Armed Forces bloodstain arm's length (n.) board board of assessors arm's-length (adj.) assistant attorney general bodily injury

bondholders coconspirator co-counsel bookkeeper Boston navy yard codefendant Boston police headquarters coexecutor boy friend coinsurer breach (use as noun only; do not "breach a contract" but "commit a breach")

break-in (n.) breathalyzer bullets

burglar's tools (not "burglar tools")

bus bused buses busing

bylaw (provisions are "adopted," not

"enacted")

 \mathbf{C}

café

caliber (not "calibre")

canceled canceling cancellation case-by-case basis case-in-chief case law

"castle law" statute cellular telephone center (not "centre")

charge back child care (n.) child victim child witness citation (n.) cite (v.)

City Hall, Boston city of Boston Civil War veteran clerk-magistrate

cliché

closely held corporation

collector-treasurer Colonial

commerce clause

Commissioner of Insurance Commissioner of Revenue

commissions (in general, lower case) common-law (adj., as in "common-law

right")

common law (n.) commonsense (adj.) common sense (n.) Commonwealth **Communist Party**

condominium units (not "condominiums")

Congress congressional Constitution constitutional Constitutions

controlled purchase (not "controlled buy")

conviction of (not "conviction for")

cooperation cooperative coowner correction officer

correspondent cotenant coterminous cotrustee councillors counselled counselling counsellors count 1

counter affidavit counterclaim counter designation

country-wide

county of Suffolk (or "Suffolk County") different from (not "different than") County of Dukes County dissociate (not "disassociate") court appointed district attorney court house (but "Suffolk County Court dollar bill House") domicil court room doorknob doorway coventurer coworker doubtless (adv.) (not "doubtlessly") "crack" cocaine down payment criticise Draconian driver's side cross action cross appeal (n.) drug store due process clause cross-appeal (v.) cross bill duplicative convictions (not "duplicitous") cross claim (n.) E cross-claim (v.) cross complaint cross-examination (n.) each and every (avoid) cross-examine (v.) east coast cross motion (n.) e.g. (for example) electronic mail message (e-mail) cross-move (v.) cross payments embarrass cross section empanelled crosswalk empanelling cul-de-sac (plural: culs de sac) empanelment **Custom House** enact (avoid; use "adopt") cutoff (n. & adj.) encumbrance enforceable ensure/insure/assure D entranceway damage (i.e., loss or injury) entrust damages (i.e., monetary compensation) equal protection clause day care (n.) etc. (avoid; use "and so forth") daytime et seq. (no comma, no italics) exhibit A day-to-day (adj.) dead end (n.) exit (not favored as verb) dead-end (adj.) extrajudicial decision maker extreme atrocity or cruelty decision-making eyewitness declaration in set-off deem (avoid) F defense de minimis face-to-face

fact finder (n.) fact finding (n.) fact-finding (adj.) fall (as a season) far-reaching (adj.) father-in-law Federal federally felony-murder	grandchildren grand jury for the county of Norfolk (but "grand jury for Norfolk County") grand jury (plural, i.e., "the grand jury are") grievous (not "grievious") guarantee (v.) guaranty (n.) guardian ad litem gunshot
finalize (avoid) fingernail	Н
fire fighter	
fire house fireproof firsthand (adj. & adv.) fitted (past tense & past participle) (not "fit") five to four decision (no hyphens) food stamp forbear (i.e., tolerate) forebear (i.e., ancestor)	happened (not "transpired") hallway hand bills handbag handgun hand rail harass hard pressed
forcible	headlight
forego, foregoing (i.e., to go before)	head on collision
forgo, forgoing (i.e., to do without, waive,	heir at law
renounce, waive, avoid)	heirs at law
freeze-out (n.)	high crime area
freeze out (v.)	high-speed
fulfil	high tension wire
fulfilled	high-power lines
fulfilling	hit-and-run (adj.)
fulfilment	Hobson's choice
full-blown	hopefully (avoid)
full court	hot top
full-time (adj.)	hot topping
full time (n.) fund raising	house of correction Houses (when referring to House and
rund raising	Senate)
G	Schate)
J	I
gasoline (avoid "gas")	•
gasoline station	id. (period and underscore; no comma when
girl friend	followed by page number)
good will	idiosyncrasy (not "idiosyncracy")
Governor	i.e. (that is)

ill-advised judgment n.o.v. (not jnov) ill-considered jury (plural, i.e., "the jury are") jury-of-six (adj.) ill-equipped impact (avoid use as verb) jury of six (n.) **Justices** impostor inasmuch as joint venture in camera L in-court in-court identification incumbent labeled indicate (avoid; use "say," "state," or labeling "show") landowner individual (avoid; use "person") last-minute indorse (not "endorse") lawmaker indorsement (not endorsement) lay persons **Industrial Accident Board** Legislature industry-wide legislative in evidence (not "into evidence") lesser included offense inferable libellous lienholder in personam insofar (one word) Lieutenant Governor insofar as life beneficiary (used in trust matter; "life instalment tenant" used in connection with real estate) install life-style lifetime installation installed linchpin instalment lineup inter alia (avoid; use "among others") lock up (v.) Lord's day Internet Interstate Highway 93 lot 40 **Interstate Commerce Commission** lump-sum (adj.) Internal Revenue Service intervener M in the circumstances (not "under") makeup (i.e., cosmetics) Irish-American marijuana (beginning with 429 Mass.) irregardless (avoid) mayor of Boston italicized Mexican-American mid-1970s J millimeter (e.g, "nine millimeter handgun") mischievous East Cambridge jail minuscule Suffolk County jail mugshots

multi (generally no hyphen; see § 3.01.6)

iudgment

murder in the first degree	pejorative (not "perjorative") per cent
N	petit larceny (not "petty larceny")
	photocopied (not "reproduced")
next door	plan to go (not "plan on going")
nighttime	pleaded (past tense of plead) (not "pled")
Nineteenth Century (initial caps.)	post (generally no hyphen; see § 3.0.6)
no-fault	postjudgment
nol pros (v.)	postminority
nolle prosequi (n.)	post mortem
nonfelony-murder	posttrial
non (generally no hyphen; see § 3.01.6)	pre (generally no hyphen; see § 3.01.6)
nonunion	prescribe (i.e., dicate)
nonprejudicial	prefer to or over (not "prefer than")
	pretext (not "pretextual")
O	pretrial
-	preventive (not "preventative")
observed (avoid)	pro rata (adj. & adv.) (no hyphen)
o'clock (9 <u>A.M</u> ., 9:15 <u>P.M</u> .)	proscribe (i.e., prohibit)
off duty (was off duty)	Probate and Family Court
off-duty officer	probate court
offset (n. & v.)	probate judge
on (not "upon")	product (not "products") liability
online	proffered
one-on-one	r
oneself	Q
one-way street	•
ongoing	quasi contract
on the part of (avoid; use "by")	quasi contractual
out-of-court	quasi judicial
out-of-State trustee	question whether (not "question as to
over-all (adj.)	whether" or "question of whether")
overall (adv. & n.)	•
	R
P	
	rainwater
pager (not "beeper")	ratemaking
parameter (avoid; use "limit")	ratepayer
part time (n.)	rate setting (two words)
part-time (adj.)	record-keeping
pat-down	recommittal
patfrisk (n.)	redirect
pat frisk (v.)	reelected

small-time reenactment reexamine snide (avoid use) reexamination snow blower reelection snow storm regardless of whether so-called registry of deeds Social Security relied on (not "upon") son-in-law remodeling spring (as in season) stage two (Bishop-Fuller protocol) required finding res judicata (not "res adjudicata") staircase resume stairway retroactive to stairwell revise or revoke state of mind a right of way statement of agreed facts (not "agreed right hand side statement") roll call vote State police Route 125 State Secretary rowboat Statewide rule against perpetuities station house runoff election Statute of Frauds statute of limitations S Statute of Wills streets (when plural) S.C. (same case; cap.; ital.) struck (not "stricken") second-hand subbid subcontractor second level hearsay self- (always hyphenated) sub-subcontractor Secretary of the Commonwealth Suffolk County (or "county of Suffolk") setback (n.) supersede setoff (n.) susceptible of set-off (adj.) set off (v.) T self-dealing self-defense T-shirt tape record (v.) self-help semiautomatic tax-exempt character sentence of from (three to five years) taxicab shortfall telephone (v.) (avoid "call") shotgun telephone call showup Terry-type [sic] (bracketed & underscored) third prong malice sidebar The following nouns denoting

single justice

elapsed spans of time should

preferably be used as indicated: vice-president (all others) thirty days' ----- time videotape (n. and v.) thirty days' ----- duration thirty-day ----- period W thirty-day ----- term thirty-day ----- span Web site thirty-day ----- spell well-being thirty-day whether (not "as to whether") wholly owned thirty days' ----- notice widespread thirty-day ----- interim wilful thirty-day ----- interval witness's thirty-day ----- pendency witnesses' thirty-day ----- intermission work product doctrine thirty-day ----- sentence workers' compensation thirty-day workers' compensation act World War II thirty days'---- delay thirty-day ----- lapse X thirty days'---- grace thirty-day ---- reign X-ray thirty-day ---- tenure town of Y traveled traveler year old (adj.) traveling Treasurer and Receiver General treble damages trial court truth-telling (adj.) two-lane traffic two-tone IJ underground (adj.) unobjected-to statements U-turn V vis-à-vis Vice-President (U.S.)

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